

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A streaming media player providing content protection and digital rights management, including:

a port configured to receive a digital bit stream, the digital bit stream including:

content which is encrypted at least in part, and

a secure container including control information for controlling use of the content, including at least one key suitable for decryption of at least a portion of the content; and

a control arrangement including:

means for opening secure containers and extracting cryptographic keys, and means for decrypting the encrypted portion of the content, and
means for receiving and processing rules controlling access to, or use of, said content.

2. (Original) The player of Claim 1 in which the digital bit stream includes at least two substreams which have been muxed together, at least one of the sub-streams including compressed information, and

wherein the player further includes:

a demux designed to separate and route the sub-streams;

a decompression unit configured to decompress at least one of the sub-streams, the

decompression unit and the demux being connected by a pathway for the transmission of information; and
a rendering unit designed to process decompressed content information for rendering.

3. (Original) The player of Claim 2, further including:
a stream controller operatively connected to the decompression unit, the stream controller including decryption functionality configured to decrypt at least a portion of a sub-stream and pass the decrypted sub-stream to the decompression unit.
4. (Original) The player of Claim 3, further including:
a path between the control arrangement and the stream controller to enable the control arrangement to pass at least one key to the stream controller for use with the stream controller's decryption functionality.
5. (Original) The player of Claim 4, further including:
a feedback path from the rendering unit to the control arrangement to allow the control arrangement to receive information from the rendering unit regarding the identification of objects which are to be rendered or have been rendered.
6. (Original) The player of Claim 1, wherein the digital bit stream is encoded in MPEG-4 format.
7. (Original) The player of Claim 1, wherein the digital bit stream is encoded in MP3 format.
- 8.-21. (Withdrawn)
22. (Original) The player of Claim 1, wherein the control arrangement includes tamper resistance.

23-25. (Withdrawn)

26. (Currently Amended) A method of rendering a protected digital bit stream including:

receiving the protected digital bit stream[.];

receiving rules controlling access to, or use of, said content;

passing the protected digital bit stream to a media player,

the media player reading first header information identifying a plugin used to

process the protected digital bit stream, the first header information

indicating that a first plugin is required;

the media player calling the first plugin;

the media player passing the protected digital bit stream to the first plugin;

the first plugin decrypting at least a portion of the protected digital bit stream;

the first plugin reading second header information identifying a second plugin

necessary in order to render the decrypted digital bit stream;

the first plugin calling the second plugin;

the first plugin passing the decrypted digital bit stream to the second plugin;

the second plugin processing the decrypted digital bit stream, the processing

including decompressing at least a portion of the decrypted digital bit stream;

the second plugin passing the decrypted and processed digital bit stream to the

media player; and

the media player enabling rendering of the decrypted and processed bit stream,

whereby the first plugin may be used in an architecture not designed

for multiple stages of plugin processing.

27. (New) The streaming media player of claim 1, wherein said rules are included in said secure container.
28. (New) The streaming media player of claim 1, wherein said rules are provided from a source external to said secure container.
29. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein said rules are included in said data stream.
30. (New) The streaming media player of claim 26, wherein said rules are provided from a source external to said data stream.